

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
SPECIAL READING (GRADES K-12)**

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A.** A valid Missouri permanent or professional certificate of license to teach; and
- B.** Two (2) years of classroom teaching experience;

II. PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS* (These shall be met by courses of at least two (2) semester hours, unless otherwise specified.):

A. Foundations of Teaching:

- 1. **Child Psychology;
- 2. **Adolescent Psychology;
- 3. Psychology and/or Education of the Exceptional Child (including the Gifted); and
- 4. Evaluation of Abilities and Achievement (instruction in interpretation of individualized intelligence tests, formal and informal diagnostic procedures and in prescriptive instruction);

B. Teaching Methods:

- 1. Reading (at least three (3) courses required, minimum total of twelve (12) semester hours, one (1) of these courses shall be in Analysis and Correction of Reading Disabilities);
- 2. Language Acquisition and Development or Language Development of the Exceptional Child;
- 3. Behavior Management Techniques; and
- 4. Counseling Techniques (to include communication skills with exceptional children and families of exceptional children); and

C. Clinical Experiences:

- 1. Practicum in the Diagnosis and Remediation of Reading and Related Difficulties:
A minimum of six (6) semester hours is required for the practicum which should include experience with students at both the elementary and secondary levels. The practicum should require demonstrated competency in student management at both the elementary and secondary levels.

**These may be met by courses taken as part of the baccalaureate degree.*

***A combined course of at least three (3) semester hours in Child and Adolescent Psychology may meet these two (2) requirements.
Revised April 2005*